

Pickett Creek Fish Enhancement/ Restoration Projects

Projects along Pickett Creek include major culvert replacement to enhance migration of anadromous fish and surfacing of West Pickett Creek Road to prevent sediment from depositing in Pickett Creek. Pickett Creek area residents have requested upgrade of Pickett Creek Road surface to BLM and Josephine County Commissioners for the past three years.



Pickett Creek tributary culvert, a 4'x6"x44' circular pipe, was identified for replacement in 1998 because plunge pool scour at the outlet prevented steelhead trout and Coho salmon from migrating up stream to spawn. Funding for the project became available in 2003.

BLM engineers designed a bottomless arch structure to facilitate fish migration. The new structure, a 4'x8'x40' open bottom concrete arch, was installed in September of 2003. The new structure eliminated the plunge pool, which prevented fish from migrating up stream beyond the old structure. The structure was replaced by a local contractor at a cost of \$54,955.00.





The plunge pool which prevented migration of anadromous fish.

The plunge pool was eliminated by an open bottom structure returning the channel to natural stream characteristics. The project opened approximately 1/4 mile of fish habitat.





One and one half miles of West Pickett Creek Road along the stream is scheduled to be resurfaced in 2004. The project will improve road surface and eliminate sediment discharge into Pickett Creek. Management goals for roads located adjacent to Coho and steelhead streams is to reduce or eliminate sediment discharge to improve fish habitat.

The roads have been bladed from the outside into the ditch depositing excess material in the ditch line which will be removed to a designated stockpile site. Erosion barriers/wattles are placed in the ditches to prevent sediment movement through cross-drain culverts into Pickett Creek during maintenance and immediately following maintenance operations.





Designated stockpile waste sites, are located in areas away from Coho and steelhead streams to prevent sediment.

Materials deposited from ditches and roadside brushing will be burned, scattered, or removed at the conclusion of road maintenance operations. Sites may be mulched as needed to hold soil in place.





Culvert catch basins, located at mid slopes or near ridge tops are cleaned.

Material removed from catch basins may be deposited on the fill slope to reduce costs associated with haul. Sites are located far above stream channels to prevent sediment deposits from reaching Coho and steelhead streams.

Chip seal contract has been awarded to a local contractor at a cost of \$24,437.50. Work is expected to begin early summer of 2004. BLM crews will be working through the winter months on other BLM roads to remove roadside vegetation, clean culverts and ditches, and grading of road surfaces.

For information about projects contact
Grants Pass Field Engineer
541-471-6979 or 840-4682

